

# SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

8/13/03

## MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

#### **Public Service Commission**

• The Senate approved the nomination of Peter Lark as Chair of the PSC [RC 416: 38 yes, 0 no].

#### **Director, Dept. of Corrections**

• The Senate approved the nomination of Patricia Caruso as Director of the DOC [RC 417: 38 yes, 0 no].

#### **Liquor Control Commission**

- The Senate approved the nomination of Nida Simona to the LCC [RC 418: 37 yes, 0 no].
- The Senate approved the nomination of Pat Gagliardi to the LCC [RC 419: 37 yes, 1 no (Johnson)].

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

#### SB 393 (Kuipers)

#### RAISE CHARTER SCHOOL CAP (IN DETROIT ONLY)

The bill was changed in the House to allow for the creation of 15 additional charter schools in the city of Detroit. Also, there was no action taken to limit the ability of Bay Mills to charter additional schools.

- The Senate did <u>not</u> concur with the House changes to the bill [RC 415: 0 yes, 29 no]. (7/17)
- Hammerstrom moved to reconsider the vote [RC 415] defeating concurrence of SB 393. The motion passed [no RC].
- The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 393 [RC 420: 22 yes, 16 no (DEMS)]. Immediate Effect was initially <u>not</u> given to the bill; however, after a second vote, IE was given to the bill.

#### HB 4087 (Moolenaar)

HB 4087 would allow small well owners to submit complaints to the DEQ or to MDA – for an agricultural complaint - if the small quantity well has failed to furnish the well's normal supply of water and the owner has a credible reason to believe the well's problems are due to a high capacity well. Both directors are given the

authority to dismiss "unreasonable" complaints. The director will do an on-site inspection within 1 working day of complaint receipt.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to HB 4087 [RC 421:35 yes, 0 no; RC 422: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

## FINAL PASSAGE

#### HB 4453 (Hoogendyk)

Under current law, service credit for members of the Public School Employees Retirement System is calculated based on six hours per day and at least 170 days of work. This bill would instead allow a year service credit to be earned for employment of at least 1,020 hours in a school fiscal year. Passage of this bill would assure that school employees are not penalized if a school district chooses to change its school calendar through an adjustment in days.

- HB 4453 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4453 passed with IE [RC 423: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

#### **HB 4945 (FARRAH)**

The bill would allow the payment of an additional 13 weeks of temporary extended unemployment compensation.

The bill would result in the payment of an estimated \$206 million for extended unemployment compensation benefits. Of that amount, \$181 million would be funded from the Federal government, \$23 million from the State Unemployment Trust Fund and \$1.75 million from the Unemployment Trust Fund Penalty and Interest Account.

- HB 4945 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading. No amendments.
- HB 4945 passed with IE [RC 424: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.